

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 HEW-02 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

(ISO) W

----- 005006

R 301340Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5032

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL CASBLANCA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A DECON 6/30/76

TAGS: ELAB, ILO, XF, LE

SUBJ: ILO CONFERENCE: ARAB WORKER REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED TO
GOVERNING BODY

1. LEBANESE LABOR LEADER JOHN SABA CALLED ON REGIONAL
LABATT UPON RETURN FROM GENEVA TO PROVIDE RATHER OPTIMISTIC
ACCOUNT OF GB WORKER ELECTIONS. HE STATED THAT, AS RESULT OF
ARAB DISARRAY OVER CONSENSUS SLATE OF ARAB WORKER CANDIDATES.
ARAB MODERATES SWEEPED ELECTION FOLLOWING CATCH-AS-CATCH-CAN
CAMPAIGN. TUNISIAN WAS ELECTED TO LIST A, EGYPTIAN TO LIST B,
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AND SABA, TO HIS OWN UTTER SURPRISE, TO LIST C. RADICAL ARAB

CONTENDERS-- IRAQI AND LIBYAN-- BOTH FAILED TO GET REQUISITE VOTES, HE ADDED.

2. SABA HAD HIGH PRAISE FOR US WORKER DEL, INDICATING AMERICAN VOTE AND GENERAL SUPPORT HAD BEEN MOST HELPFUL IN HIS OWN ELECTION AS LAST-MINUTE COMPROMISE CANDIDATE.

3. COMMENT: SABA, WHO HEADS UNION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT EMPLOYEES AND IS PRESIDENT OF FEDERATION OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH WORKERS, IS PATENTLY PRO-AMERICAN LEBANESE CHRISTIAN. WHILE IT IS DOUBTFUL IF HE, AS NO.10 ON LIST C, WILL HAVE OCCASION TO PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN GB, HE WOULD READILY WELCOME CLOSE CONTACT WITH AMERICANS WHENEVER CALLED UPON TO PARTICIPATE IN GB SESSIONS. IN THE MEANTIME, SABA, WHO HAD BEEN EARLIER DESIGNATED CONFEDERATION OF LEBANESE LABOR COORDINATOR OF UPCOMING AAFLI-SPONSORED LABOR LEADER SEMINAR AT BEIRUT, WILL DOUBTLESS GO ALL OUT IN MAKING EVENT A SUCCESS.
GODLEY

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Message Attributes

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